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The Unless Press

Serving Greenville, Solla Sollew, and surrounding areas.

Issue 2, August 22

Upcoming Events

8/25/12	Once-ling meet-up in Southern California. 12:00 PM. See dai-chan0713.
8/17/12	"The Whozits" band, appearing in Greenville Square. 1:00 PM. BYOB.
8/21/12	Thneed demonstration. Greenville Square. 2:30 PM. Tomatoes to be served.
8/24/12	I-Scream Parlor grand opening. Come early for free ice cream! 12:00 PM.

Zombie Apocalypse

Following the unforgettable Camp Weehawken Weekend, as well as the ever-emotional antics of Thneedville High, comes a completely different alternate universe with a taste for the gory and gruesome. Sure to please the more adventurous travelers, a Zombie Apocalypse AU has recently broken out among the fandom, and those who are joining would be well advised to stay on the alert for zombie attacks and to prepare themselves for whatever surprises may come their way.

It's not only casual bloggers in the fandom whom have jumped into the fray for the fight of man versus zombie. Quite a few ask blogs have also joined in on the fun, including Swag Once-ler, Bitter Once-ler, One-ler, Cowboy Once-ler, and even the Lorax. Needless to say, it's interesting to see the various alternate universes and subjects that have cropped up within this fandom, from camps to corpses. With the recent birth of the zombie apocalypse, one has to wonder what's to come in the future.

Did You Know?

Ted Wiggins' love interest, Audrey, was named after Dr. Seuss' second wife, Audrey Dimond.

Spotlight on the Fandom

Join the moderator of *The Unless Press* as she interviews two very special members of the fandom!

Our first interview is with member **Imaginashon**, who currently helms her own little comic titled "Truffula Trove".

Q. **What got you into the Once-ler fandom and what do you like most about it?**

A. I've always been a fan of Dr. Seuss' books, and eventually, an old roommate sent me a link to the trailer for the film. I thought it looked like it would be a great animation, and ironically, I had never heard of that Dr. Seuss book in particular. When the movie came out, I took my friend with me and after class we went to see it in 3D, after I heard all the hype this Once-ler guy was giving people. I instantly LOVED his character and the personality he had, so like any good fan I started drawing him. What I like most about the fandom is all the various artists within it. Whether they be beginners or professionals, it's fun to see how people will draw the Once-ler in their own style. Not to mention meeting people is always fun too!

Q. **As a comic artist, what do you find to be the most challenging thing about creating new panels and building the story? Do you ever feel pressured when delivering to your viewers, or do you just focus on having fun?**

A. Probably the most challenging is having to cut down on certain parts. I get so caught up in my storyline that I tend to go off in a direction that doesn't need to be explored. And I suppose getting the right perspective in each panel is a bit of a challenge for me too, haha! I do sometimes feel pressured to get a page done once a week, but it... (cont. on pg. 3)

Member Interviews

Everyone in this fandom has something good to offer, whether it is artwork, writing fan fiction, submitting head canons, cosplaying, role-playing, or simply reblogging posts! Anything and everything counts in this fandom!

... is really a lot of fun. I love making people laugh! I just hope they'll stick around long enough to see the rest of the comic!

Q. Are there any words of advice you'd give to aspiring artists?

A. First off, keep practicing. Kids have asked me loads of times how I got so good. The answer is practice. I didn't go one single day as a kid without drawing, and my teacher in grade 8 told me that if doodling helped me concentrate in class, I should do it. Practice, and observation. Take a sketchbook EVERYWHERE. My mom told my aunt this year that the only time she sees me without a sketchbook is at church and at the dinner table. Draw EVERYTHING you see if it gives you an idea, and don't feel ashamed if it doesn't look like an art piece worth $500. Every artist started out somewhere. Whether you're 10 or 25. Just keep practicing and strive to be better. That's the only way you'll improve.

Q. If you could meet any character from *The Lorax*, who would it be and why?

A. Oh my gosh.... Once-ler definitely. I'd just love to sit down and speak with him, maybe draw him a few pictures. He'd need some color in that old Lerkim of his! But Ted too. I've begun to fall in love with that kid. People tend to say that he wasn't important to the story but he really was. He represented the kids we are, the people who can make a change, who are strong enough to stand against the worst. Hence the reason he's the protagonist in my comic! So yes. I'd have to say a tie with Once-ler and Ted.

I'd like to give a big "thank you" to Imaginashon for

Imaginashon's "Truffula Trove" comic is altogether colorful, cute, and captivating!

participating in this interview! Go check out her comic!

(Next interview is on pg. 5.)

~ A "Recollection" ~

Fan fiction: It's a popular venue for writers of all kinds and styles. Some see it as a great opportunity to brush up on their writing skills using preexisting characters, settings, and time periods as a base, while others simply enjoy expanding upon (and creating new) situations involving their favorite fictional (and even sometimes nonfictional) characters. Such an art is ever-present in the Once-ler fandom, and one particular writer whom has captured the hearts of Norma-ler and even non-Norma-ler shippers alike is member **Alirical**, author of a most charming piece of fan fiction titled "Recollection". The story focuses on what life may have been like for both the Once-ler and Norma had they known each other in their youth. The story is already twenty-four chapters in on fanfiction.net, and is altogether very captivating, heartfelt, and enjoyable to read, as well as in character. This is one tale you don't want to miss out on.

A portrait of what the Once-ler's dad may have looked like, drawn by Once-ler fandom member and artist "Widdlez".

The Once-ler's dad with a young version of the Once-ler, drawn by the moderator of the blog itself, Askoncelerdad.

Ask Blog Q & A - Interview with Askoncelerdad

In our second Q & A session, we have joining us an ask blog, **Askoncelerdad**!

Q. **What's your favorite thing about your ask blog character and what is his background?**

A. My favorite thing about Dan (the Once-ler father) is how incredibly compassionate he can be -- it's a level not often seen in real life that often feels exclusive only to fictional characters. His background (in the shortest summary I can feel won't bore anyone), is that when he was young he played in a band that was relatively popular and had some fame; that was how he met the Once-ler's mother (Roxie, for my purposes). Thinking his fame could fulfill all her dreams she married him and shortly thereafter Chet and Bret came about. Dan was always gone for his gigs and even several shows weren't enough to support a family, so he gave up to get a regular job. After Once-ler was born everything began to go downhill -- nonstop arguing about money, about the kids, and about his lost career. To escape her and the life he'd never really wanted Dan left one night without saying a word to anyone. He tried to make it as a musician again, but the world no longer wanted him. Slowly but surely he became a homeless wreck, and stayed that way for 14 years, until, one day, he came across a newspaper with a familiar face on it: Once-ler! His boy had grown up to be a success. Dan found him in the Truffula valley, their bonds were reconciled, and the rest is history in the making.

Q. **What do you like most about running an ask blog?**

A. What I like most? Well, I used to be primarily a draw blog, and at the time I liked drawing the replies the most, but the more I talked to certain people the more asks turned into outright roleplays, and it became unrealistic and a little difficult to answer every single thing with a picture. So I'm really not even hardly an ask blog anymore, I'm really more an rp blog. And the thing I like the most are all the incredible stories I've written through it.

Q. **What got you into the Once-ler fandom?**

A. Askonceler, the original Once-ler blog... (cont. on second page 5)

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The Once-ler's dad with a young version of the Once-ler, drawn by the moderator of the blog itself, Askoncelerdad.

Ask Blog Q & A - Interview with Askoncelerdad (con.)

... (long since abandoned, sadly) was the first Once-ler related thing I ever followed, back when I still had my TF2 blog running pretty regularly. I love how in character he was, and how funny, and how tragic, too -- it was that blog that first lay down the head canons about the Once-ler father that I still use to this day. If not for them, I might never have made this blog, and it would have been much longer before I found my way to this side of Tumblr.

Q. If you could spend a day with any character from *The Lorax*, who would you choose and why?

A. It would be the Lorax, hands down. I've loved him since I was a little girl, and every time I read the story I only ever wanted to make things better for him. That book began my life-long obsession with botany, horticulture, medicine, psychology, etc. Any and all pursuits of higher learning began because of the immortal word "UNLESS".

Many thanks goes to the moderator of Askoncelerdad for taking the time out of her day to answer these questions and give us a little insight into the character's background, as well as her thoughts on the film and fandom. Thank you!

I'd like to take a moment to thank every member of the Once-ler fandom for simply being a part of this great and creative community. You don't have to be a popular ask blog, a talented artist, a writer, or a cosplayer (or anything else) to contribute to this fandom. You make a mark just by being in the fandom, by reblogging posts, spreading loving kindness, liking funny and thought-provoking conversations, enjoying the film that started it all, and simply having fun in general. Never think that you're unimportant, because every single person in this fandom has something to offer and should focus on having fun, and that means you, too!!

More intervews with fandom members, both well-known and lesser-known, will be conducted in the future. The next set of interviews will most likely take place in the second or third week of next month (meaning September). Look forward to that and more in upcoming issues of *The Unless Press*!!

High-school sweethearts come in threes…

High-school friendships and drama aren't just prevalent in real life, but can also be found online, too. If there are any ask blogs that keep members guessing, giddy, and on their toes for whatever bit of relationship news they can get their green-gloved hands on, it's Swag, Bitter, and One-ler. From smooches to s'mores, and from turtles to tent making, this trio doles out more surprises faster than you can say "Oncest".

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